Territories. Hence, it may be premature at this stage to constitute another Wage Board.

Schemes for benefit of tea or coffee garden labourers

2488. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers employed in tea or coffee gardens have been facing a lot of problems due to non-availability of various beneficial schemes;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes which have been formulated for the benefits of labourers working in tea and coffee gardens; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to mitigate their sufferings?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHADRASEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) Tea Board and Coffee Board have welfare schemes for the benefit of plantation workers. The schemes are supplemental in nature as the plantation management has the primary responsibility of looking after the welfare of workers.

Tea Board also supports some welfare programmes and activities for the benefit of tea plantation workers and their dependants such as education (stipends, construction & extension of schools and colleges etc.) and health care (purchase of medical equipments, construction and extension of hospitals, etc.) through their regular plan schemes.

Coffee Board has been extending financial support towards labour welfare measures in the coffee plantation sector under its labour welfare scheme. The benefits extended are educational stipends and meritorious awards to the children of workers employed in coffee farms and processing centres and donations to educational institutions and health care centres located in the coffee growing regions to strengthen the infrastructure facilities.

Further, with an objective to improve socio-economic conditions of plantation labourers particularly women labourers as well as for skill development, the Coffee Board operated a Human Resource Development (HRD) programme/scheme during Ninth Plan and is continuing it in the Tenth Plan also which involves assistance for providing machinery/equipment to support the skill development programme, *in situ* training on Knitting, Bee keeping, Kitchen gardening, Poultry & Piggery

and rabbit rearing, off campus training to grow vegetables in backyard, mushroom culture preparation of nutritious dishes.

Creation of jobs

2489. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobs created in public sector and organized public sector in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of persons who lost their jobs due to retrenchment, implementation of policy of privatization, liberalization and globalization; and

(c) the strategies Government have adopted to tackle the unemployment crisis in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Estimated employment in the public and private organised sector (covers all establishments in the public sector irrespective of their size and non agricultural establishments in the private sector with 10 or more workers) as on March 2001, 2002 and 2003 based on Employment Market Information Programme of Directorate General of Employment & Training, was as given below:—

Year	Employment as on 31st March (in lakhs)		
	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total
2001	191.38	86.52	277.89
2002	187.73	84.32	272.06
2003	185.80	84.21	270.00

(b) As per the provisional information available, number of persons affected due to retrenchment during the year 2005 (January-September) was around 1911.

(c) Government have fixed a target of creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the Tenth Plan in the normal growth process as well as through special employment generation programmes. Various Ministries/Departments of Central as well as State Governments are implementing various schemes to generate employment opportunities. Some of the special employment generation schemes implemented by